

# MISCELLANEA

## CEYLON: PARASITE AND SPLEEN RATES. PARASITE RATIOS

The following data have been constructed from tables kindly sent to me by Mr. H. F. Carter, Malariologist, Ceylon:—

### CEYLON (9 Provinces).

<i>Spleen Rate</i>			<i>Parasite Rate</i>		
Children (56372)			Children (4647)		
	...	%	Average	...	%
Average	...	14	Average	...	13
Maximum	...	56	Maximum	...	29
Minimum	...	1	Minimum	...	2

### *Parasite Ratios* (1206)

	...	...	Average	Maximum	Minimum
	...	...	%	%	%
Malignant tertian	...	...	11	17	3
Simple tertian	...	...	61	85	57
Quartan	...	...	28	43	11

100

### ANURADHAPURA LOCAL BOARD AREA (Ceylon).

#### *Spleen Rate*

			Children (661)	Adults (1135)
			%	%
Average	...	...	50	30
Maximum	...	...	67	45
Minimum	...	...	31	21

#### *Parasite Rate*

			Children (300)	Adults (410)
			%	%
Average	...	...	41	16
Maximum	...	...	85	47
Minimum	...	...	11	4

### *Parasite Ratios* (209)

	...	...	...	...	...	...	%
Malignant tertian	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Simple tertian	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Quartan	...	...	...	...	...	...	46

J. W. W. STEPHENS

## THE HOOKWORMS OF MAN IN SIERRA LEONE

4,305 hookworms were obtained from thirty-eight prisoners, treated by Dr. J. Wood, W.A.M.S., in the Freetown Jail, and from nine post-mortems. All the cases were natives of Sierra Leone.

Only two species, *Necator americanus* and *Ancylostomum duodenale* were found.

Of the total number of hookworms examined 3,929, i.e., 91·3 per cent., were *N. americanus* and 376, i.e., 8·7 per cent., were *A. duodenale*. The largest number of hookworms found in a single case was 483.

	<i>N. Americanus.</i>	<i>A. duodenale.</i>
Average number of hookworms per case.....	83·6	8
Highest number found in one case .....	483	196
Number of females in total number examined .....	2931	192
Number of males in total number examined .....	998	174

In *N. americanus* females were about three times as numerous as males, while in *A. duodenale* the sexes were about equal in number. Of the 376 specimens of *A. duodenale*, 302 were recovered from two post-mortems on natives from Rotifunk, in the interior. Excluding these two cases *A. duodenale* formed less than 2 per cent. of the total number of hookworms examined.

The presence of *A. duodenale* in Sierra Leone, both in man and in the civet cat, is of great interest, for according to Darling (1920) this parasite has not been recorded from man in Equatorial Africa. Darling states that *A. duodenale* is the only hookworm recorded from man in North Africa and *N. americanus* the only one recorded from man in Equatorial and South Africa. Sierra Leone is, evidently, intermediate between the zones of distribution of *A. duodenale* and *N. Americanus*, the latter hookworm largely predominating.

S. ADLER

## REFERENCES

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- DARLING, S. T. (1920). Observations on the geographical and ethnological Distribution of hookworms. *Parasitology*, Vol. XII, No. 3, pp. 217-233.
- YORKE, W., and BLACKLOCK, B. (1915). Ancylostomiasis in dogs in Sierra Leone. *Ann. Trop. Med. and Parasitol.*, Vol. IX, No. 3, pp. 425-427.

## CESTODES FROM EAST AFRICA

The following from a guinea fowl in Kenya Colony, East Africa, and sent by Mr. Brassey Edwards, M.R.C.V.S., were identified :—

*Cotugnia digonophora* (Pasq., 1890).

*Metroliasthes lucida* (Ransom, 1900).

M. J. W. WALKER

## FASCIOLA HEPATICA

'7. *What causes* flounders, real little *flat fish*, brown on one side, white on the other, mouth side-ways, with tail, fins, and all, *leaping alive*, in the *inside* of a rotten sheep's, and every rotten sheep's *liver*?' ('Rural Rides,' William Cobbett, 1853, p. 281.)

J. W. W. STEPHENS